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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,085	07/15/2003	Minoru Kawahara	450100-04652	7420

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EXAMINER

LONG, ANDREA NATAE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

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07/02/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/620,085	KAWAHARA ET AL.
	Examiner Andrea N. Long	Art Unit 2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 3-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 and 3-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 15 July 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 and 3-7 have been examined in response to Applicant's arguments filed 03/06/2007.

Applicant's Response

Claim 2 has been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection under 35 USC 112 moot. Applicant asserts that the Kudou reference was commonly assigned and is considered a reference under 35 USC 103(c).

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

However, the Office has not been supplied with a certified translation of the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The current claims recite, "processing audio visual data made up of video or audio data". The phrase contradicts itself by having audio visual data made up of either video or audio data. Audio visual data consists of both video and audio. The use of either audio or video data but not both combined renders the claim indefinite and fails to show a clear distinction of the composition of audio visual data.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 1 and 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lang (US Patent 5164839) hereinafter “Lang”, in view of Lindsey et al (US Patent 6226296 B1), hereinafter “Lindsey”.**

7. **As to independent claims 1, 6, and 7,** Lang discloses *a data processing apparatus, method and a program for causing a computer to execute a data processing method for processing audio visual data made up of video or audio data* (column 3 lines 40-50 → Lang teaches an audio/video device for manipulating data)

said data processing comprising:

receiving means for receiving an edit command specifying how to edit said audio visual data (column 6 line 53 through column 7 line 5 → Lang teaches a user interface controlled by a user to edit the data)

editing means for editing said audio visual data in accordance with said edit command (column 7 lines 10-19 → Lang teaches the CPU is used to interpret the edit command from the user)

determining means for determining whether said edit command specifies copying of said audio visual data (column 9 lines 37-63 → Lang teaches determining means is one of a desired command from the user to copy data)

controlling means which, if said edit command is determined to specify the copying of said audio visual data, then transfers said audio visual data from a copy source formed by one at least one recording/reproducing means for recording or reproducing said audio visual data, to a copy destination formed by either the same or another recording/reproducing means (column 9 lines 37-63 → Lang teaches when desired to copy the data is copied from the recording media to another media);

and if said edit command is determined to specify an editing action other than copying of said audio visual data, then transfers the unedited audio visual data reproduced from one of said at least one recording/reproducing means to said editing means for the specified editing action, and transfers the edited audio visual data coming from said editing means to either the same or another recording/reproducing means for storage therein, while synchronizing said editing means and the two recording/reproducing means in operation (column 10 lines 10-32 → Lang teaches when editing operations are selected the original version is stored into memory and the editing is accomplished by the user through control of the digital control unit).

Lang does not disclose *without synchronizing the two recording/reproducing means in operation*. However, Lindsey does teach *without synchronizing the two recording/reproducing means in operation* (column 2 line 57 to column 3 line 3 → Lindsey teaches an asynchronous transfer mode of video and audio through a routing switcher).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was to have combined asynchronous transfer of Lindsey with the data processing of Lang to save time of development.

As to dependent claim 3, Lang discloses *wherein said at least one recording/reproducing means is incorporated in the apparatus* (column 3 lines 40-50 → Lang discloses the device consists of an AV recorder editor/transceiver and addition units all in a common housing).

As to dependent claim 4, Lang discloses *wherein said at least one recording/reproducing means is capable of recording or reproducing said audio visual data to or from a randomly accessible storage medium* (column 4 lines 29-40 → Lang teaches that the VCU comprises of RAM which is used in conjunction with the CPU for interim data storage).

As to dependent claim 5, Lang discloses *wherein said edit command is recorded on a storage medium and reproduced therefrom by said at least one recording means* (column 6 lines 46-52, column 7 lines 13-15 → Lang discloses the edit commands are stored in ROM and are accessed by the DCU and CPU); and

wherein said receiving means receives said edit command reproduced from said storage medium (column 6 line 46 through column 7 line 5 → Lang teaches that the user accesses a user interface which is controlled by the DCU that comprises ROM to specify edit commands).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure has been listed on the Form 892 – Notice of References Cited.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea N. Long whose telephone number is 571-270-1055. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andrea N. Long
06/22/2007

William S. Bashore
WILLIAM BASHORE
PRIMARY EXAMINER